

Content available at: <https://www.ipinnovative.com/open-access-journals>

IP International Journal of Medical Paediatrics and Oncology

Journal homepage: <https://www.ijmpo.com/>

Original Research Article

A study to assess the knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions among mothers of under five children

Bushra Mashtaq¹, Javaid Ahmad Mir^{2,*}, Onaisa Aalia Mushtaq³

¹Dept. of Nursing Education, AMCN & MT, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora, Jammu and Kashmir, India

²Govt. Nursing College GMC, Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, India

³Dept. of Nursing Education, MMINRS, SKIMS Soura, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, India



ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 25-10-2021

Accepted 20-11-2021

Available online 22-12-2021

Keywords:

Febrile
Convulsions
Under five
Children
Mother

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Febrile convulsions can be scary to watch. However, they may not cause lasting harm. Intelligence and other aspects of brain development don't appear to be affected by febrile convulsions. The child having febrile convulsion doesn't mean that the child has epilepsy, these are two different diagnoses. The aetiology of Febrile convulsions can be infections or sometimes after the dose of immunizations cause fever. Many studies suggest that febrile convulsions are common in under five children and is a challenging issue in hospital or home settings. Mothers are on forefront to take care of children in home settings. So, there is a need for the study to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding febrile convulsions.

Materials and Methods: Research approach in this study, quantitative research approach was found to be appropriate to assess the knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions among mothers of under five children at selected rural area of Ganderbal Kashmir.

Research design: The research design selected for this study was Descriptive Survey Design. In the present study Structured Interview Schedule was administered to mothers of under five children

Result: In this study it is find that 20%, were having inadequate, 57% were having moderate & 23% were having adequate knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions. An also mean score was 40.62, median was 33.00, standard deviation was 8.1. The findings revealed that majority of mothers of under five children were having moderate knowledge, so they need to be educated and informed about management of febrile convulsions.

This is an Open Access (OA) journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/), which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

For reprints contact: reprint@ipinnovative.com

1. Introduction

The age group of 0-5 years are categorized as under five children. This age group of children are vulnerable to get any kind of infection. Under five years of age Children are in developing stage and all body systems are immature. And as their play activities, poor feedings, and immaturity of immune system they get frequently infected with different infections like Respiratory Tract

Infection, Otitis Media, Diarrhea, Gastroenteritis etc. Fever is a common presentation of the infections. In some children high grade fever can result convulsions.¹

Fever means that the body is fighting against the infection. "Fever is defined as an elevation of body temperature in response to pathological stimulus". A clinical policy published by American College of Emergency physicians (ACEP), a child is considered febrile only when his rectal temperature exceeds 38⁰C (100.4⁰F). Fever above 41.5⁰C (106.7⁰C) needs immediate and aggressive antipyretic therapy to control the risk of

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: mirjavaidahmad77@gmail.com (J. A. Mir).

irreversible organ damage. High grade Fever also increases the risk of febrile convulsions. Mother is first person to understand that the child is ill and who take care of their children constantly. She checks temperature of child as well. If high grade fever is neglected or mismanaged it leads to febrile convulsions in a child.²

Most childhood seizures are relatively common and represented by febrile episodes associated with Childhood convulsions. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has defined a “febrile convulsion” (FC) as a seizure episode in infancy or childhood, mostly occurs between 3 months to 5 years of age, associated with fever but without any evidence of intracranial infection, pathological or any traumatic cause”. Many Studies revealed that between 2% and 5% of all children will experience Febrile Convulsions before the age of five years. Majority of cases of febrile convulsions occurs in children between the age of 12 & 18 months. In Pacific populations the incidence rate can be as high as 15%. It is known that Febrile Convulsions are most likely to occur in families where there is familiar history of Febrile Convulsions. Children from the families with history of convulsion manifests three-times or greater risk than the general population.³

2. Review of Literature

Sajadi H. M, Shamsi M. (2011): A cross-sectional study was conducted in healthcare centers in Arak city on knowledge of mothers on management of febrile convulsion. 100 mothers with children less than two years of age were selected by multi-stage cluster sampling. The results of study revealed that there was lack of knowledge regarding febrile convulsions among mothers so there was need for educational program.⁴

Erkek N, Senel S, Sahin M, Ozgur O, Karakan C. (2010) A prospective questionnaire-based study was conducted in the pediatric emergency department at Dr. Sami Ulus Children’s Hospital to reveal the perceptions, knowledge and practices of parents regarding children’s fever. Parents of 200 febrile children were selected through purposive sampling for data collection. The study results revealed that parental education about ‘fever in childhood’ in our population may positively affect parental knowledge and approach to fever.⁵

Gordon KE, Dooley JM, Wood E, Brna P, Bethune P (2011) A descriptive study was conducted in Karnataka to assess the mother’s awareness regarding fever control measures to prevent the occurrence of febrile convulsions. By simple random sampling technique 80 mothers were selected for the study. The study results revealed that significant improvement can be achieved by giving education to the parents.

Lahal M, Goldmen M.(2010): A prospective questionnaire-based study was conducted in Seth GS Medical College, Mumbai to describe the health care

practice of parents when child has convulsions. 140 parents were selected randomly. The study results revealed that delay in treatment put them at higher risk for developing neurological sequel. There is a need to develop appropriate strategies for disseminating information about first aid measure to parents.⁶

Kolahi AA, Tahmooreszadeh S (2009): A prospective questionnaire-based study was carried out in Mofid Children’s Hospital Iran to evaluate the knowledge of the mothers of children with first febrile convulsion. 126 mothers of children presenting with febrile convulsions The study results revealed that parental fear about febrile convulsions is major problem so they need additional education programs.⁷

Suad A, Assad B, Adel MZ (2009): A comparative study was conducted in the Department of Pediatrics, Worcester Royal Infirmary, UK to study the effects of giving information to parents with and without febrile convulsive children. 100 parents were selected. The results of the study was compared using a chi-squared test ($P < 0.05$). The study results revealed that mothers having febrile children have more knowledge as compared to other group.⁸

3. Materials and Methods

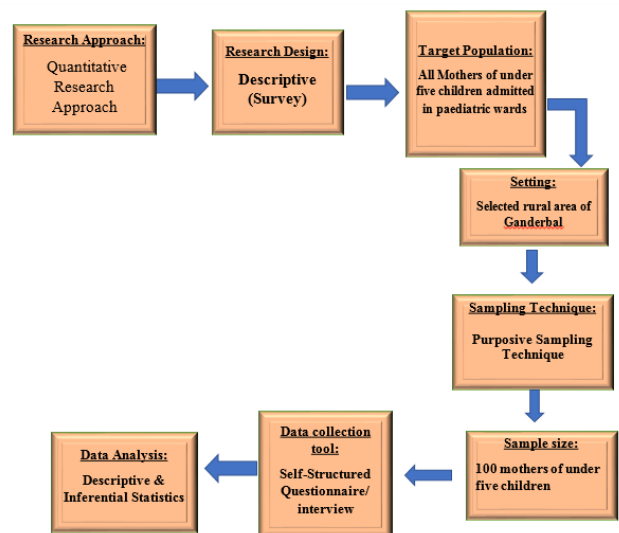


Fig. 1: Schematic representation of methodology

3.1. Analysis

Analysis and interpretation of knowledge of subjects regarding management of febrile convulsions.

The data in Figure 2 showed that mean score was 40.62, median was 33.00, standard deviation was 8.1 and range was 38;

Figure 3 showed that 20% subjects were having inadequate, 57% having moderate and 23% having

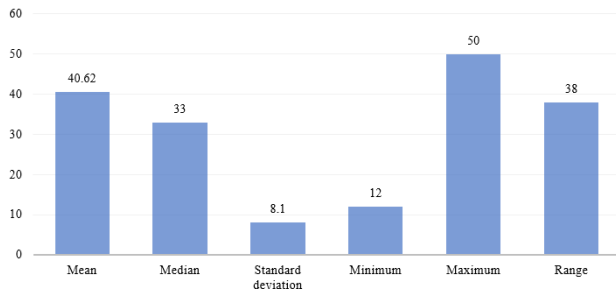


Fig. 2: Mean, Median, Standard deviation, Range of knowledge scores of Subjects regarding management of febrile convulsions. N=100

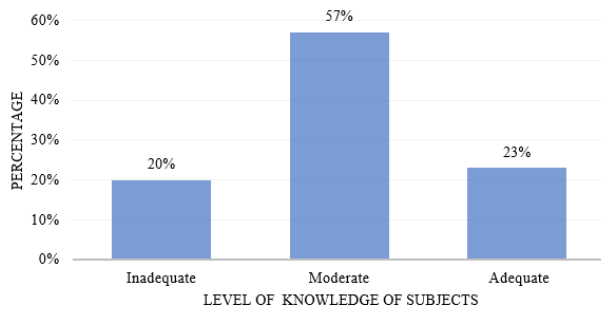


Fig. 3: Level of Knowledge of subjects regarding management of febrile convulsions.

adequate knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions.

4. Conclusion

In this study it is find that 20%, were having inadequate, 57% were having moderate & 23% were having adequate knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions. The mean score was 40.62, median was 33.00, and standard deviation was 8.1. The findings revealed that majority of mothers of under five children were having moderate knowledge, so they need to be educated and informed about management of febrile convulsions, so that the child mortality and morbidity rate will decrease.

5. Conflict of Interest

The author declares no potential conflicts of interest with respect to research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

6. Source of Funding

None.

References

1. Marilyn J. Hockenberry. In: Wong's Nursing Care of Infants and Children. 7th Edn. Philadelphia: Elsevier's publication; 2009.
2. Warden RC, Zibulewsky J, Mace S, Gold C, Gausche-Hill M. Evaluation and management of febrile seizures in the out-of-hospital and emergency department settings. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2003;41(2):215–22. doi:10.1067/mem.2003.48.
3. Vadani V. Pediatric febrile convulsion-An Indian perspective. *Indian J Pediatr.* 2005;35(4):55–9.
4. Hazaveh MS, Shamsi M. Assessment of mothers' behaviour in preventing febrile convulsion in their children in Arak. *J Jahrom Univ Med Sci.* 2011;9(2):34–40.
5. Erkek N, Senel S, Sahin M, Ozgur O, Karacan C. Parents' perspectives to childhood fever. *J Paediatr Child Health.* 2010;46(10):583–7. doi:10.1111/j.1440-1754.2010.01795.x.
6. Lahal M, Goldmen M. Comparison of intranasal midazolam with intravenous diazepam for treating febrile convulsions in children A prospective randomized study. *Br Med J.* 2010;321(7253):83–6. doi:10.1136/bmj.321.7253.83.
7. Kolahi AA, Tahmooreszadeh S. First febrile convulsions: inquiry about the knowledge, attitudes and concerns of the patients' mothers. *Eur J Pediatr.* 2009;168(2):167–71.
8. Suad A, Assad B, Adel MZ. Auditing the attitude and knowledge of parents of children with febrile convulsion. *Afr J Neurol Sci.* 2009;55(5):10931.

Author biography

Bushra Mashtaq, Faculty

Javaid Ahmad Mir, Faculty

Onaisa Aalia Mushtaq, Post Graduate Nursing Scholar

Cite this article: Mashtaq B, Mir JA, Mushtaq OA. A study to assess the knowledge regarding management of febrile convulsions among mothers of under five children. *IP Int J Med Paediatr Oncol* 2021;7(4):192-194.